LIFESTYLE

Alberta has a diverse arts and culture community, and numerous community and ethnic organizations that provide festivals, events and attractions for Albertans and out-of-province visitors. Alberta's major cities, Calgary and Edmonton, have vigorous live music, theatre and visual arts scenes, as well as symphony, opera and ballet, while smaller cities and towns offer unique cultural experiences with an array of festivals and performing and visual arts venues.

Over 70 festivals bring music, dance, film, literature, theatre and the visual arts to Albertans throughout the province. Residents and visitors alike enjoy performances by 10 major performing arts companies, 45 professional performing arts companies and 155 performing arts organizations.

Alberta is home to five of Canada's 15 United Nations World Heritage Sites, areas designated by UNESCO as offering exceptional universal value to humanity.

INNOVATION

Alberta's research and innovation system and its technology commercialization support programs make Alberta an attractive place for companies to accelerate innovations into the global marketplace.

Innovation organizations, including the Alberta Innovates corporations, are working with academia and industry to develop and commercialize innovative solutions in Alberta's priority areas of health, energy and environment, bioindustries, information and communication, and emerging technologies.

Alberta also supports its business environment through programs, such as Scientific Research and Experimental Development tax credits, Industry Associates and Innovation Vouchers. The Alberta Enterprise Corporation helps connect and attract venture capital investment for innovators, entrepreneurs and companies. Information on programs and services within Alberta's research and innovation system can be accessed through Connectica (www.connectica.ca).

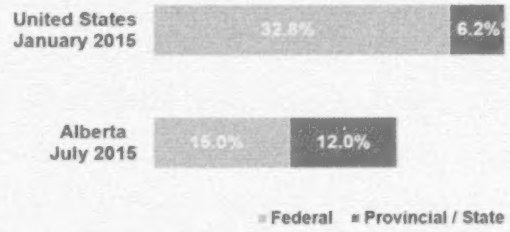
COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT

In 2013, Alberta's business sector had the highest labour productivity level in the country. The total value added per hour worked in Alberta exceeded the Canadian average by about 44 per cent.

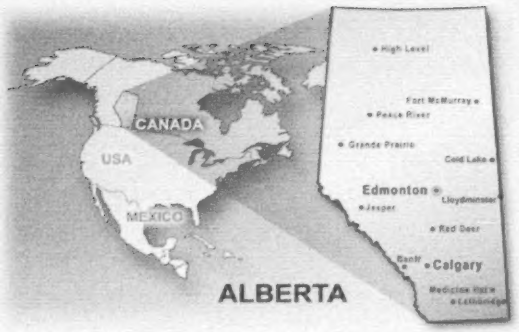
Alberta's long-term economic growth prospects remain strong. Increased productivity growth will be important to optimize the economic benefits from energy investment in Alberta, and to encourage higher value added activity and industrial diversification.

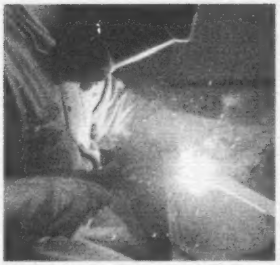
The Alberta government's low-tax and fiscal responsibility policies create long-term economic benefits for Albertans. Alberta has one of the most competitive business tax environments in North America. The combined federal/provincial corporate income tax rate is 27%. The low income tax rates combined with the fact that Alberta has no provincial capital taxes, no payroll taxes, no sales tax, and has a publicly funded health care insurance system makes Alberta's tax environment very competitive.

Comparison of Corporate Income Taxes



*6.2% represents the average effective top general state corporate income tax rate
Sources: Alberta Innovation and Advanced Education, Tax Foundation and Federation of Tax Administrators





Alberta Economic Quick Facts

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ISSN: 1718-1402
ISSN: 1718-1410 (pdf)

October 2015

Alberta Government

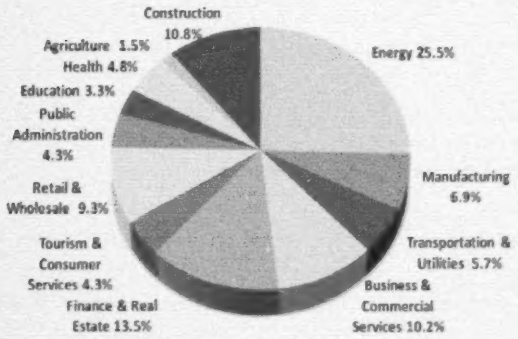
ALBERTA – FRESH OPPORTUNITIES

Albertans are blessed with an abundance of natural resources that form the foundation of its economy. The Alberta government has built on this foundation by fostering a positive business climate based on low taxation that attracts investment, creates diversity, and encourages Alberta businesses to compete successfully around the globe. This foundation includes:

- A globally competitive business tax environment
- An efficient and modern infrastructure
- Strategic access to the North American free trade market and to North Asian markets
- Political stability and low taxes
- A young, skilled and productive workforce
- No provincial sales tax, no payroll tax, no health care premiums, and low fuel taxes
- Albertans generally pay lower total taxes than they would in any other province
- A strong financial position and minimal debt
- A government that understands and works closely with business; and,
- Safe communities with a superior quality of life and diverse cultures

Alberta GDP by Industry 2014

Total GDP $364.5 Billion



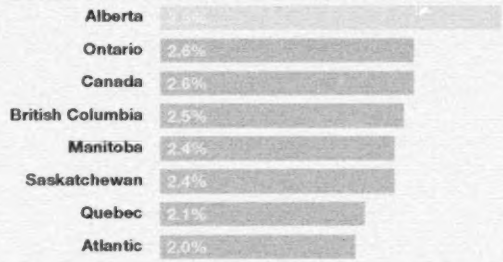
Source: Statistics Canada

ECONOMIC OVERVIEW

- Alberta's economy expanded by 4.4% in 2014, the third highest provincial growth rate
- Alberta leads all provinces in economic growth during the past 20 years, with an average annual GDP growth of 3.5% per year
- The recent crude oil price decline is negatively impacting the Alberta economy this year
- Alberta's per capita GDP of $84,390 (in 2013) is the highest of any state or province in North America
- Employment increased by 48,400 in Alberta in 2014

Real Economic Growth 1994 - 2014

Average Annual Growth in GDP (per cent)



Sources: Statistics Canada and Alberta Innovation and Advanced Education

Economic Indicators	2013	2014
GDP Growth (chained 2007 $)	3.9%	4.4%
GDP per Capita (in current $)	$84,390	
Investment (million)	$91,682	$92,079
Investment per Capita		
Alberta	$22,879	$22,340
Canada	$7,283	$7,453
Manufacturing Shipments (million)	$73,793	$79,384
International Goods Exports (million)	$103,007	$121,449
Unemployment Rate		
Alberta	4.6%	4.7%
Canada	7.1%	6.9%
Number Employed	2,226,200	2,274,600
Retail Sales (million)	$73,109	$78,711
Consumer Price Index (% change)	1.4%	2.6%
Housing Starts	36,011	40,590

KEY ECONOMIC SECTORS

Although the Alberta economy is currently seeing slower growth because of weak oil prices, over the long run it will continue to thrive on its expanding oil sands sector and the development of supply chain manufacturing and services sectors.

Advanced Technologies
Alberta's key advanced technology sectors include clean energy, information and communication technology (ICT), life sciences and nanotechnology. Revenues for Alberta's ICT industries totaled approximately $13.2 billion in 2013.

Agri-foods
Manufacturing shipments from the food and beverage industry were valued at $13.7 billion in 2014.

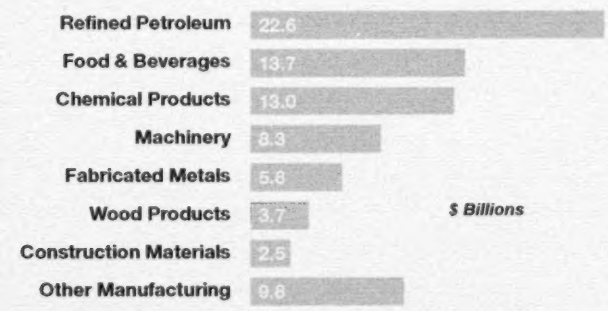
Energy Products
Manufacturing sales of petrochemicals and refined petroleum products reached $35.6 billion in 2014.

Forest Products
Alberta produced $5.4 billion in forest products in 2014. Alberta forest products include lumber, pulp, newsprint, panelboard and secondary wood products.

Industrial Machinery and Metal Fabrication
Alberta's industrial machinery and metal fabrication industry generated $14.0 billion in revenues in 2014. More than one-quarter of shipments was exported to international markets.

Value of Alberta Manufacturing Shipments 2014

Total $79.4 Billion



Source: Statistics Canada

ALBERTA, CANADA

Population: 4,196,457 (July 1, 2015)
Area: 661,000 km²

Edmonton CMA Population: 1,328,290 (2014)
Calgary CMA Population: 1,406,721 (2014)
Note : CMA is Census Metropolitan Area

Population

In 2015, Alberta's population grew by 1.8% - the highest provincial rate of increase and double the Canadian growth rate of 0.9%. Between 2005 and 2015, Alberta's population increased by 26%, the highest increase of any province or state in North America.

Cultural Diversity

(Various languages spoken in Alberta)

English	**3,557,375**	**Arabic**	**40,920**
French	**238,770**	**Ukrainian**	**31,845**
Chinese*	**125,375**	**Vietnamese**	**29,200**
Tagalog	**87,385**	**Urdu**	**26,820**
German	**83,680**	**Cree**	**22,770**
Spanish	**81,350**	**Polish**	**21,900**
Punjabi	**62,815**	**Dutch**	**21,190**
Hindi	**40,745**	**Russian**	**20,640**

Sources: English and French - Statistics Canada, 2011 Census of Population.
Non-official languages - Statistics Canada, 2011 National Household Survey
These numbers add up to more than the population due to multiple responses
* Includes all Chinese languages, such as Cantonese and Mandarin

Strategic Location

Alberta is part of a western Canadian market of 11 million people.

Alberta's proximity to the western United States provides easy access to an overall market of 64 million people. This includes the 10 states westbound from Colorado to the Pacific Coast.